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Application No: 09/836,141
Attorney's Docket No: RBT 3001CLAIM AMENDMENTSListing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) A system for automatically planning, booking and calendaring travel arrangements, the system comprising:

a data storage device;

a booking engine;

an output device;

a processor programmed to:

maintain in the storage device a database of user profile information including information regarding air travel booking preferences, car booking preferences, hotel booking preferences and personal preference air travel ratings,

receive a travel request input including travel request data automatically gathered from a user's personal calendar application configured to store and display a user's calendar events including events not related to the travel request data,

use the stored user profile information and the travel request data to automatically formulate a travel request in response to the travel request input, the travel request including airline, hotel and rental car reservation information,

select business rules based on at least two ranked and prioritized categories related to travel preferences.

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automatically create a travel query file by applying the business rules to the travel request, including:

automatically executing an air booking process based on at least two categories of user preference information selected from the group of categories of lowest price, arrival/departure time, airline, non-stop, duration, alternate airports and full-fare automobile upgrades,

automatically executing a car booking process, and

automatically executing a hotel booking process,

submit the query file to a booking engine for creating a travel request query,

submit the travel request query to a travel distribution system for retrieving air, car and hotel availability information,

receive from the travel distribution system the air, car and hotel availability information and create a suggested travel itinerary,

output for display on a user display device the suggested travel itinerary,

allow manual changes to be made to the suggested travel itinerary,

accept manual confirmation of the suggested travel itinerary; and

process data from the confirmed travel itinerary for automatically creating and storing appointment events in a the user's personal calendar application.

2. (Currently Amended) A method for automatically planning, booking and calendaring travel arrangements, the method comprising:

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maintaining in a computer storage device a database of user profile information including information regarding air travel booking preferences, car booking preferences, hotel booking preferences and personal preference air travel ratings;

receiving a travel request input including travel request data automatically gathered from a user's personal calendar application configured to store and display a user's calendar events including events not related to the travel request data;

using the stored user profile information and the travel request data to automatically formulate a travel request in response to the travel request input, the travel request including airline, hotel and rental car reservation information;

selecting business rules based on at least two ranked and prioritized categories related to travel preferences:

automatically creating a travel query file by applying the business rules to the travel request, including:

automatically executing an air booking process ~~based on at least two categories of user preference information selected from the group of categories of lowest price, arrival/departure time, airline, non-stop, duration, alternate airports and full fare automobile upgrades,~~

automatically executing a car booking process, and

automatically executing a hotel booking process,

submitting the query file to a booking engine for creating a travel request query;

submitting the travel request query to a travel distribution system for retrieving air, car and hotel availability information;

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receiving from the travel distribution system the air, car and hotel availability information and creating a suggested travel itinerary;

outputting for display on a user display device the suggested travel itinerary;

allowing manual changes to be made to the suggested travel itinerary;

accepting manual confirmation of the suggested travel itinerary;

automatically creating and storing appointment events in the user's personal calendar application using data from the confirmed travel itinerary.

3. (Currently Amended) A system for automatically planning, booking and calendaring travel arrangements, the system comprising:

a data storage device;

an output device;

a processor programmed to:

maintain in the storage device a database of user profile information including information regarding travel booking preferences,

receive a travel request input including travel request data automatically gathered from a user's personal calendar application configured to store and display a user's calendar events including events not related to the travel request data,

use the stored user profile information and the travel request data to automatically formulate a travel request in response to the travel request input, the travel request including reservation information,

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select business rules based on at least two ranked and prioritized categories related to travel preferences,

automatically create a travel query file by applying the business rules to the travel request, and

submit the query file to a booking engine for creating a travel request query.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3 wherein the processor is programmed to submit the travel request query to a travel distribution system for retrieving air, car and hotel availability information.

5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3 wherein the processor is programmed to receive from the travel distribution system the air, car and hotel availability information and create a suggested travel itinerary.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3 wherein the processor is programmed to output for display on a user display device the suggested travel itinerary.

7. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3 wherein the processor is programmed to allow manual changes to be made to the suggested travel itinerary.

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8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3 wherein the processor is programmed to accept manual confirmation of the suggested travel itinerary.

9. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3 wherein the processor is programmed to process data from the confirmed travel itinerary for automatically creating and storing appointment events in the user's personal calendar application.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for automatically planning, booking and calendaring travel arrangements, the method comprising:

maintaining in a computer storage device a database of user profile information including travel booking preference information;

receiving a travel request input including travel request data gathered automatically from a user's personal calendar application configured to store and display a user's calendar events including events not related to the travel request data;

using the stored user profile information and the travel request data to automatically formulate a travel request in response to the travel request input;

selecting business rules based on at least two ranked and prioritized categories related to travel preferences:

automatically creating a travel query file by applying the business rules to the travel request, including:

automatically executing a travel booking process;

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submitting the query file to a booking engine for creating a travel request query;
submitting the travel request query to a travel distribution system for retrieving air, car and hotel availability information;
receiving from the travel distribution system the air, car and hotel availability information and creating a suggested travel itinerary; and
outputting for display on a user display device the suggested travel itinerary.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein automatically executing a travel booking process includes automatically executing an air travel booking process.
12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the air travel booking process is executed based on at least two categories of user preference information selected from the group of categories of lowest price, arrival/departure time, airline, non-stop, duration, alternate airports and full fare automobile upgrades.
13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein automatically executing a travel booking process includes automatically executing a car booking process.
14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein automatically executing a travel booking process includes automatically executing a hotel booking process.

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15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the travel booking preference information includes air travel booking preference information.
16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the travel booking preference information includes car booking preference information.
17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the travel booking preference information includes hotel booking preference information.
18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the travel booking preference information includes personal preference air travel rating information.
19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the travel request includes airline reservation information.
20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the travel request, includes rental car reservation information.
21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein automatically creating a travel query file includes automatically executing a car booking process.

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22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein automatically creating a travel query file includes automatically executing a hotel booking process.
23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 further comprising allowing manual changes to be made to the suggested travel itinerary.
24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 further comprising accepting manual confirmation of the suggested travel itinerary.
25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 further comprising automatically creating and storing appointment events in the calendar application using data from the confirmed travel itinerary.
26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the travel booking preference information includes information regarding one or more company travel policies.